

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 817

By Floyd

A RESOLUTION to recognize and congratulate Pat Starke upon being chosen as a 2014 Woman of Distinction by the American Lung Association in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Pat Starke will be recognized as a 2014 Woman of Distinction by the American Lung Association in Tennessee at the organization's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Women of Distinction Awards Luncheon; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious event honors a number of women who have distinguished themselves in their professional, civic, and volunteer service and also benefits the important work of the American Lung Association in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Pat Starke is well known in the Chattanooga area as a volunteer extraordinaire; she has lived there for several years with her husband, John, who is a petroleum geologist, and her work necessitates the couple traveling and living all over the world; and

WHEREAS, her mobile lifestyle affords Mrs. Starke abundant opportunities for volunteerism, which she enthusiastically embraces in several countries, such as Venezuela, where she worked to provide pre-school for children; Nigeria, where she raised funds to support a free medical clinic; China, where her benevolence was targeted to children in orphanages, and across the United States; and

WHEREAS, she has an abiding passion for music that she has promoted to others, especially to children, through many of her volunteer acts. Her first act to integrate into the community of Chattanooga was to join First Centenary United Methodist Church and begin

singing in the choir and playing hand bells, and she also began volunteering as a tutor in the Inner-City After-Care Ministry; and

WHEREAS, she served on the Board of Directors of the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera for six years, and she also served as a member of the development and education committee, community engagement committee, various fundraising committees, the Scholarship Committee, and the youth orchestras board, which she serves as vice-president; and

WHEREAS, Pat Starke is a founding member of the Performing Arts League, Inc., and has chaired its vocal competition for two years; she is a member of the Jan Pennington Gray Harp Scholarship board and has been an ardent supporter of Siskin Rehabilitation Hospital for seven years; and

WHEREAS, through her volunteer work, Mrs. Starke serves thousands of people locally, nationally, and internationally with compassion and genuine interest, and she makes a positive difference in the lives of countless people on five continents; and

WHEREAS, this State and her community of Chattanooga are pleased that Pat Starke became a Tennessean. Her life's work in volunteerism is truly reflective of this State's moniker, "The Volunteer State," and it is fitting that this legislative body recognize her accomplishment of being honored a Woman of Distinction; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and congratulate Pat Starke upon being named a 2014 Woman of Distinction by the American Lung Association in Tennessee, thank her for all she has done to make Chattanooga and this State a better place to live and work, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.